



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 09/918,117
U.S. Application of: Akira TSUBOUCHI, et al
For: HOLLOW RACK SHAFT
Confirmation No.: 2600
Customer No.: 24731
Docket No.: 18733/00060
Filed: July 30, 2001
Group Art Unit: 3682
Examiner: Bradley J. Van Pelt

RECEIVE

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GROUP 3682

AF/3682
#15/Amdt (AEE)
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Handwritten notes:
Disagreed
recommended
2/2/04
[Signatures]

MAIL STOP AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: MAIL STOP AF , Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on	
January 15, 2004	_____
Date of Deposit	_____
Brian E. Harris	_____
Name of Applicant, Assignee, or Registered Representative	_____
<i>[Signature]</i>	_____
Signature	_____
January 15, 2004	_____
Date of Signature	_____

AMENDMENT

This Amendment is filed in response to the Office Action dated October 20, 2003, which provides for a response period ending January 20, 2004.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 3 of this paper.

Please amend the above-identified application as follows: